

FRAUD IMPLIED IN SINGLE TAX FILING

Canvass of Alleged Petition Signers Brings Horde of Indignant Denials. MANY SIGN BY MISTAKE Hundreds whose Names Are Listed Can't Be Found, Others Say They Were Misinformed and Majority Declared Opposition.

Is your name on the so-called people's land and loan petition? Maybe you think it isn't, but it may be there all the same. The mere fact that you didn't sign the petition doesn't mean, necessarily, that your name isn't there. Recent investigations conducted by a committee of the Portland Realty Board and by other business men indicate that most of the people whose names appear on the "land and loan" petitions didn't sign them at all, signed under misapprehension or signed without realizing what they were doing. In fact, the investigation disclosed some astonishing peculiarities about the petitions, the manner in which they were circulated and the methods of those who circulated them. Yet the bill, with the requisite proportion of signatures, was filed at the Secretary's office, and the measure will be printed on the official ballot to be voted upon at the election one week from next Tuesday. Official Title Imposing. On the official ballot it has the sounding title of "Full Rental Value Land Tax and Homeowners' Loan Fund Amendment." That attractive caption may prove misleading, for the measure is a single tax bill, and nothing more. It carries No. 307 and No. 307 on the ballot. If you are opposed to single tax you will vote 307 X No. It is apparent that the sponsors for the measure have done the work in the way they got the names, just as if they got them. In conducting the recent investigation for the Realty Board's committee Paul A. Cowgill, secretary of the organization selected 9999 names from the Multnomah County petition at random. He wrote a personal letter to each man or woman of the 9999, explaining the provisions of the bill and soliciting a reply as to the circumstances under which the petition was signed. He inclosed a self-addressed, stamped postal card for the reply. Up to noon yesterday he had received 530 answers and only 65 of those who answered, a little more than 10 per cent, said that they would vote for the bill. Fraud is Implied. But here is something even more significant. An aggregate of 812 letters were returned to the writer. The postoffice department had been unable to make delivery. The names or the addresses, or both were fictitious! Think of it! Nine per cent of the people whose signatures appeared on the petitions could not be located by the letter carrier! Apparently those people don't exist. In an examination of the replies that were received by Mr. Cowgill, the replies have been classified, according to the nature of their contents and divided as follows. Returned letters (fictitious names and addresses) 125. Signed through misapprehension 129. Do not remember signing, are against it 89. Signed thinking it the "rural credit" bill 65. Will vote "no" give no explanation of their signature 24. Did not understand it; are against it 24. May have signed it, but are now against it 24. Do not know of ever signing such a bill 22. Signed it hurriedly without thought 20. Do not think they signed it; will vote "no" 16. Signed it to help out the petitioner 16. Signed it to get it on the ballot 7. Signed it, but have changed mind 6. Did not realize they were signing it 6. Always sign every petition 2. Total 1442. Various Reasons Given. Here are some of the typical answers. "When I signed the petition I did not fully realize what it meant." "It was not aware, when I signed, that it was nothing more or less than single tax." "If I signed that land measure bill I did not understand it and will not vote for it." "I signed without a proper knowledge of its purpose." "I will have to admit that I signed without full information." "I signed the petition through a misunderstanding and shall vote against it." "A large number of those who answered explain that they signed under misapprehension that they were signing the rural credits bill." "I am very much surprised to learn of my signature on the petition for single tax, as the one I signed, I understood, was for rural credits. I am very sorry this has happened, as I am very much opposed to the single-tax bill," says one man in explanation of his mistake. Many Signers Are Opponents. A small proportion of people say that they signed the petition in entire good faith, knowing fully what it was and intending to vote against it, but on the theory that the petitioners have the right to get their proposal before the people on the ballot. "I signed to help out the canvasser," is a typical explanation of another group, who declare that they will vote against it. "I was in a hurry and it was misrepresented to me at the time," is typical of another class of replies. Here are some of the replies from those who insist that they did not sign the petition at all. "Will say that there is a mistake. I am not a petition signer." "I am positive that I never signed this petition, as I have signed no petition at all." "Never signed it." "I am opposed to the single-tax measure and never signed the petition."

MR. HUGHES WINS EASILY Straw Vote at Escadada Gives Him 87 to 52 for Wilson.

PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE INDICATING BIG FRAUD IN INITIATIVE PETITION TO HAVE "FULL RENTAL VALUE LAND TAX AND HOMEOWNERS' LOAN FUND AMENDMENT" PUT ON BALLOT.

PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE INDICATING BIG FRAUD IN INITIATIVE PETITION TO HAVE "FULL RENTAL VALUE LAND TAX AND HOMEOWNERS' LOAN FUND AMENDMENT" PUT ON BALLOT. Includes a photograph of a man at a desk and a document with a handwritten note: 'I have never favored "Single Tax." If the petition you mention has my name, it is there by fraudulent representation, or forgery. I shall vote NO on number, 307. very truly yours E. B. Linger 312 Abington Bldg., Portland, Ore.'

DR. MARCELLUS IS BACK Introduced the chairman of the evening, who was A. M. Work. Neapolitan Quartet furnished musical selections. HUGHES MONEY NOT TAKEN Republicans Offer Wagers on Nominee, but Democrats Hesitate. PENDLETON, Or., Oct. 28.—(Special.)—Although this was Wilson day in Pendleton Hughes money is plentiful here. Up to a late hour there were no callers for the three bets totaling \$1250 on Hughes which were placed at a local cigar store by Pendleton Republicans today. The report that there is no Hughes money in Pendleton has brought a number of Hughes men who are willing to take the Republican candidate as the favorite either in Pendleton, Umatilla County, the state or nation. Hearing that there was \$2000 on Wilson offered at a cigar store a prominent Republican came forward last night to take the bet, but by this time the Wilson man was willing to wager only \$700.

GUARD MEDICAL OFFICER TO BE MUSTERED OUT OF SERVICE. Duties as City Health Officer Will Be Resumed—Oregon Troop and Battery Left in Fine Shape.

Dr. M. R. Marcellus, city health officer, returned yesterday from Calexico, Cal., where he has been detailed with Oregon Troop A and Battery A for two months past. He has returned in accordance with orders from the War Department to report here to be mustered out. He will again take charge of the health bureau of Portland next Wednesday, relieving Dr. Louis Wolf, who has held the position since Major Marcellus was called out with the Oregon National Guard in June.

SALESMEN HEAR ISSUES THIRTY CANDIDATES MAKE ONE-MINUTE SPEECHES. Club Members Snap-Shot Judgments of Aspirants for Office at Bi-Weekly Dinner.

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MERCHANTS FOR HUGHES GREATER PORTLAND ASSOCIATION STRAW VOTE 98 TO 4. Similar Ballots Taken on Alberta Streetcars and Vancouver Ferry Show Republican Lead.

Advocate and Opponent Are to Meet at Oregon City. OREGON CITY, Or., Oct. 27.—(Special.)—E. J. Stack, secretary of the Portland Central Labor Council and the Oregon State Federation of Labor, and Arthur Brock, of Portland, will debate the affirmative side of the land and loan (single tax) bill against C. Schuchel, legislator and City Attorney, at the Woodman Hall in this city next Thursday night. Master Artisan Bowes, of the Artisan Lodge, completed arrangements for the debate today. The meeting is open to the general public. Mr. Schuchel has made a deep study of the measure and denounces it as the "most vicious on the ballot." He has conducted a county campaign against the bill. Mr. Stack and Mr. Brock assisted in the drafting of the measure.

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SIGNALS SHOW AT NIGHT WARNINGS ON COUNTY ROADS INCREASED BY O. W. R. & N. Danger Signals in Black and White Designed to be Readable in Dark. Statistics Foreboding.

PORTLANDER DIES ON BOAT Whisky Is Chief Baggage of Dean Bishop, Found Dead on Kilburna.

DANGERS OF SINGLE TAX BILL EXPOSED

R. R. Duniway Says Measure Uses Meaningless Words in Many Instances.

PROMISES ARE DENIED Proposed Amendment Would Abolish Taxes, but Would Not Provide Sufficient Funds for Government, Says Attorney.

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Some of the dangers of the so-called "full rental value land tax and homeowners' loan fund" amendment to the constitution of Oregon, to be voted on November 7, were pointed out yesterday by R. R. Duniway, well-known lawyer. He declared that the passage of the measure would be nothing short of disaster to the welfare of the state. He warned that, even should it be held unconstitutional by the Supreme Court of the United States, which would take at least one-half to two years to determine, it would do upset conditions that panic and untold damage would result. "If the people once understood the measure there would be no likelihood of its adoption," said Mr. Duniway. "The danger lies in the misrepresentations and false promises made by its advocates, who are endeavoring to corral votes by concealing its real significance and painting a rosy but wholly untrue and misleading picture of its purported benefits. Measure Declared Single Tax. "It is essential that all our people understand what constitutional amendment No. 306 Yes, 307 No, really means. It is a single-tax constitutional amendment disguised under a long, misleading ballot title. It is quite commonly called people's land and loan amendment. This disastrous meaning will appear right after the election if the amendment should be adopted. "It is not stated in the ballot title that this is a single-tax measure. It should first be realized that it is a disguised single-tax measure and should be voted on as such and as nothing else. This proposed constitutional amendment undertakes to make a revolutionary change in our constitution. "Our citizens should realize that when they are amending a constitution they are exercising the highest power of sovereignty, and it is important that they should know, upon which they understand fully why they should vote Yes. Danger Shows on Face. "All Republicans, all Democrats, all Progressives, everybody except Socialists, anarchists and single taxers, should vote No—307 on this constitutional amendment because it is simply a so-called, anarchistic and single-tax measure and nothing else. "Of course the Socialists, the anarchists and single taxers should vote No. "To demonstrate how dangerous, damaging and indefensible this constitutional amendment is it is necessary to read it. When we read it we find that it undertakes to use words without any regard to their meaning. It attempts to accomplish absolutely different things which will not intermingle. It would not make a workable constitutional amendment. The amendment attempts to collect full rental value of land without regard to the improvements upon it, such as building, such as erecting a house, land, fencing it, putting orchards upon it, putting buildings, etc., upon it. Unimproved Land Worth Little. "The amendment provides that land not improved shall be valued on the unimproved land. There is no land rent, and there would be no land rent in its unimproved condition is capable of being used, without the expenditure for improvements. "Oregon land has a small rental value for pasture purposes, prairie land, or land that requires little effort in clearing and which would not be a source of revenue, unless the land is situated in the city upon which cheap shacks are erected, or tents are erected at slight cost, has a small rental value. "The land rent produced in such a way would be trifling and would not raise sufficient funds to run our state, county, city, municipal and other governmental charges. The assertion that the state could collect large rental value under this amendment is incorrect, for the very good and sound reason that there is no way that the land can be separated from the improvements upon it in determining rental value. State Would Be Crippled. "What would the owner of the buildings—if city property—or the owner of the labor that went into the clearing of the land, when there is no provision made in the amendment for disposing of the present owner and occupant of the improvements on the land, in favor of an outside bidder? "In other words, the proposed amendment would give the present owner a monopoly in bidding what is the land rent for the ground. There is no provision whereby a competitor could bid more land rent than the owner. The present possession of the buildings, the improvements which are inseparable from the land, and which the amendment still keeps in the owner's hands, in favor of the improvements. "The amendment would result in no one paying any large amount of land rent to the state, nor would there be any large amount of taxes to be paid to the state, and the result would be no money to carry on the state, county and city governments. Controversy Would Result. "The measure would be endless controversy and confusion as to what should be collected. "The proponents of this constitutional amendment aim to answer this by saying that under the taxing power, public officials would tax the land and its improvements, but there is no relation between land rent and taxes. The amendment abolishes taxes. Taxes and land rent cannot be used as synonyms. "The proposed amendment is so contradictory as to be meaningless. The only effect there could be would be to attempt to destroy our system of land titles, our system of taxation, and place nothing effective in its place. It would merely result in the value of lands and mortgages being destroyed by means of confusion and do no one any good."

Hyacinths, Tulips, Narcissi, Crocus, Snowdrops

and other Hardy Spring-blooming Bulbs should be planted now for earliest flowers.

Darwin Tulips

Our list of these famous large flowering tulips includes the most popular and best varieties. Be sure to make your selections while stocks are complete.

Roses Shrubs Trees and Perennial Plants should be ordered Now

With the first Fall rains all lawn work should be hastened. Our DIAMOND LAWN MIXTURE and FERTILIZER will give quick and permanent results, producing a dark green velvety turf.

Our Autumn Catalogue

Free Delivery Service For the convenience of our patrons, a daily delivery service in the city, with special arrangements for suburban districts, will be maintained.

PORTLAND SEED COMPANY SEED COMPANY PORTLAND, OREGON S. E. CORNER FRONT AND YAMHILL STREETS. TELEPHONE: MAIN 4040, A 6015.

Lovegrove-Brannock Case

Two and a half years ago H. L. Lovegrove deserted his wife and four children in California where he lived with Mrs. Brannock, wife of W. Brannock, then making with them the two Brannock boys, aged 2 and 7 years. Two and a half years ago Mr. Brannock searched for the pair and his children. Mrs. Lovegrove and four children in California were left destitute, and often during the two and a half years have toiled in the fields as a means of livelihood. The long quest for Lovegrove and Mrs. Brannock ended in Portland. By the circumlocution of officers of the Juvenile Court the pair were apprehended in Clackamas County. Life affords few cases of greater depravity than that of Lovegrove and Mrs. Brannock. The California wife and her four children, uncared for and unsupported, are a terrible indictment of the man. They are sorely in need of an indictment against Mrs. Brannock. Lovegrove and Mrs. Brannock admitted their guilt in officers. They were defended by Attorney Haddock, then law partner of Tawell, and were discharged by Tawell.

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Campbell Hotel TWENTY-THIRD AND HOYT STS. Phone Marshall 881.

Sunday Dinner 50c October 29th, 1916, 4:30 to 6:30 P. M. Casabas. Mock Turtle Soup. Sliced Tomatoes. Ripe Olives. Fried Spring Chickens, Country Gravy. Mashed Potatoes. Evergreen Corn on the Cob. Queen Fritters. Spiced Cherries. Baked Peaches and Whipping Cream. Tutti Frutti Ice Cream. Cake. Crackers. Cheese. Coffee.

HOTEL STEWART SAN FRANCISCO Geary Street, just off Union Square European Plan \$1.50 a day up Breakfast 50c Lunch 50c Dinner \$1.00 Most Famous Meals in the United States New steel and concrete structure. Center of Seattle, cafe and retail districts. On car lines transferring all over city. Take Municipal car line direct to door. Motor Bus meets trains and steamers.

Stolen Ford TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS REWARD 1917 TOURING CAR Engine number, 1291522. Oregon license, 32,649; new-style large radiator and hood, crown fenders, large hub caps, electric headlights, oil side and tail lights and license on bracket; Goodyear moulded tread tires, rear; Goodyear smooth in front. Stolen after 7 P. M., October 18th from Broadway and Yamhill streets. Notify Old Colum Insurance Company, Fields, Dove & Co., Agents, 410 Board of Trade. Phone Main 3914.

Seattle's Famous Hotel Hotel Seattle Fine central location. Every modern amenity. Cafe of finest on the coast. RATES \$1 per day up with use of bath \$2 per day up with private bath. COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

PORTLANDER DIES ON BOAT Whisky Is Chief Baggage of Dean Bishop, Found Dead on Kilburna. EUREKA, Cal., Oct. 28.—(Special.)—Dean Bishop, identified by members of the crew of steamer F. A. Kilburna as

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